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Special theme: "Climate change, bio-cultural diversity and livelihoods: the stewardship role of indigenous peoples and new challenges"

Implementation of the recommendations on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum and on the Millennium Development Goals

Human rights: dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people and other special rapporteurs

Ongoing priorities and themes and follow-up

Information received from Governments

Spain

Summary

This document contains the replies of the Government of Spain to the recommendations made by the Permanent Forum at its sixth session in 2007. It also contains information on activities, programmes and policies related to indigenous peoples, the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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I. Introduction

A. Monitoring and evaluation of the Spanish Strategy for Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples: new methodological guidelines

1. The Spanish Strategy for Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples (ECEPI), approved in 2006, has already had real practical applications in its second year of operation. The Strategy has placed Spanish cooperation activities at the forefront of the donor community with regard to specialized care received by indigenous peoples.

2. The Government of Spain has established a process for monitoring the content of the Strategy in which the Indigenous Programme of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and the Office of Development Planning and Policy Evaluation have a central role. As a result, the AECID Indigenous Programme will be able to request information from different parties concerning the implementation of the Strategy while all of the provisions in the sectoral Strategy will be taken into account within the context of the evaluation of development policies related to indigenous peoples.

3. Furthermore, in line with the ECEPI approach, considerable progress was made in 2007 in the development of useful guides for the implementation of this Strategy. The first document worthy of mention, on the topic "Indigenous peoples and cooperation for development: some reflections and guidelines for addressing indigenous issues in the work of public institutions and NGOs", provides guidance for integrating a working perspective into such bodies that considers the specific needs and different views of indigenous peoples on such issues as development or quality of life, taking into account their knowledge base and recognizing their collective rights. In addition, pursuant to a workshop held in Guatemala in September, intercultural guidelines are now being developed for the prevention of natural disasters and on risk management. Lastly, AECID has collaborated on funding the Basic Guide on Climate Change and Cooperation for Development. The development of this document has been coordinated by the Institute for Development Promotion and Support (IPADE) with the support of organizations from the Working Group on Climate Change and Combating Poverty of the Coordinating Committee for Development NGOs in Spain (CONGDE).

B. International regulatory framework: ratification by Spain of International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples

4. Spain ratified ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples on 16 February 2007. This represents an additional contribution by Spain to the international effort to protect indigenous communities and their cultures and is based on the implementation of Spanish policies for development cooperation. As a result of this ratification, Spain has become the eighteenth country in the world to declare openly its commitment to the rights of indigenous peoples and the second country without an indigenous population on its territory to have ratified the Convention.

5. In addition to ILO Convention No. 169, ECEPI has adopted three other international standards as its priority international regulatory framework for the definition of cooperation policies and activities carried out with indigenous peoples: the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the Convention on Biological Diversity; and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which provides the general basis for the aforementioned Strategy.

C. Adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

6. The adoption of the Declaration represents an important milestone for the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples by establishing a framework for dialogue between indigenous organizations, peoples and communities and different States.

7. As a member of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Government of Spain participated actively in the lengthy process which culminated in the adoption of the Declaration on 13 September 2007.

8. Within this framework, the seventh meeting of researchers on the rights of indigenous peoples was held in Madrid in December 2007 on the theme "The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples", thereby continuing a series of meetings for teachers, experts and researchers from different Spanish and American research centres and universities. On this occasion, discussions focused on the legal, political and practical consequences of the recent adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which, inter alia, covers the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination, to self-development, to territories and to a culture of their own.

II. Questionnaire

A. Progress in the implementation of the recommendations made by the Permanent Forum at its sixth session[1]

Special theme: "Territories, lands and natural resources"

Paragraph 13

9. The Convention on Biological Diversity is a highly important instrument to Spanish cooperation activities. In the multilateral arena, Spain was heavily involved and participated very actively in its negotiation, in addition to making regular financial contributions to its Trust Fund and extraordinary contributions in connection with the organization of meetings, especially with respect to its article 8 (j). Furthermore, biodiversity conservation and the centrality of human beings in environmental policies and activities are priorities for AECID in the environmental field, both in terms of horizontal cooperation, which shapes all such activities, and sectoral cooperation, as emphasized by the existence of the "Araucaria" programme, which has a specific policy on indigenous peoples and

[1] Economic and Social Council, Official Records, 2007, Supplement No. 23 (E/2007/43).

biodiversity. In addition, the Agency has an Indigenous Programme which has also recognized the importance of protecting traditional knowledge and has developed a policy to support indigenous participation within the framework of the Convention which also covers training activities on related issues and has won widespread recognition in a number of areas.

Paragraph 19

10. The theoretical framework for ECEPI includes among its basic principles that indigenous peoples have the right to free, prior and informed consent, including the right to reject proposals for development and other types of cooperation projects and activities, particularly those which affect their lands and territories. In that regard, any Spanish cooperation activities which directly or indirectly affect indigenous peoples shall respect this right. In compliance with this principle, any initiative by AECID with indigenous peoples will observe the mechanisms of free, prior and informed consent. The joint project of the Complutense University of Madrid and the Mayagba Indigenous Community of Awas Tingni in Nicaragua, in which that community carried out a self-diagnosis of its needs as a first step in defining its own development priorities, also deserves mention.

11. The activities that have been carried out in Argentina are noteworthy with respect to territories, lands and natural resources. Through the Araucaria XXI-Atlantic Forest regional project, an ongoing dialogue has been maintained in Argentina with key informants, such as local chiefs, bilingual teachers, legal representatives and artisans from the Mbyá-Guaraní communities. In addition, workshops have been held to incorporate the views of the Guaraní into the Yabotí Biosphere Reserve Management Plan. A workshop has also been held for authorities from the Mapuche, Kolla, Toba and Diaguita peoples to analyse the processes that each one is conducting for the recognition of their rights as peoples, especially the right to territory and to natural resources.

Paragraph 21

12. Spain ratified ILO Convention No. 169 in February 2007, thereby adopting it as a frame of reference for all interventions which affect indigenous peoples. Activities have therefore been carried out with a view to disseminating and implementing the Convention. With respect to the training of public officials/civil servants in this area, AECID technicians in Madrid were informed about Convention No. 169 and its practical implications for the Agency at a workshop held for the dissemination of ECEPI in July 2007. Furthermore, the practical implications of the recently ratified Convention were also explained at a workshop held in April in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, where officials from the Technical Cooperation Offices were introduced to ECEPI. Some of the participants reported on the activities carried out for the dissemination of the Convention, such as those by the Argentina Office, which had made progress on the translation and interpretation of the Convention.

Paragraphs 20 and 26

13. In July 2007, a study/report was undertaken on the implications for Agency policies resulting from the ratification of Convention No. 169. It aims to provide guidance for the amendments to be made to these policies in order to bring their

content into line with the Convention. The study is based on the public policies in force in Spain, especially in the education, tourism, health, culture, trade and environmental sectors. It is also based on case law developed by the ILO pursuant to complaints received and reports completed.

14. The consistency of indigenous-related strategies with international standards is therefore being reviewed in accordance with paragraph 26 of the report on the Forum's sixth session.

Indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact

Paragraph 39

15. With regard to improving the visibility of the situations faced by indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact, the project being implemented in the Amazon and Gran Chaco by the Native Federation of Madre Dios and Tributaries (FENAMAD), with funding from AECID, should be noted. This project began at the end of 2006 with an indigenous regional seminar held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, to establish common ground among the different stakeholders involved in the protection of this community. To that end, invitations were issued to government representatives, indigenous organizations and experts from the seven countries of the Amazon and Gran Chaco (Bolivia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) and from international organizations that are particularly influential in this area.

16. The seminar was organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Vice-Ministry of Lands of the Government of Bolivia, the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) and the Confederacy of Indigenous Peoples (CIDOB). Funding was provided by AECID, the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).

Paragraph 41

17. The Agency has supported the strengthening of the International Committee for the Protection of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact (CIPIACI) in the Amazon and Chaco regions through a project which began in October 2007 and thus continues to be operational. This project involves implementing two emergency missions in two countries where the situation for these peoples is a cause for concern in order to strengthen indigenous organizations working for their protection, to influence governmental representatives and to send up-to-date information to international human rights bodies. The project will also allow progress to be made on the development of protection strategies in the international arena through the development of a study which links unwanted contact with genocide prevention, thereby involving various international human rights mechanisms in the protection of peoples in isolation.

Paragraph 42

18. Some of the interventions connected with indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact are partially or totally focused on providing health care for these populations. As a follow-up to the Santa Cruz meeting referred to in paragraph 39, a meeting was held in Quito in October entitled "Towards the

development of public policies and action plans to ensure the right to health of peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact". The meeting was organized by CIPIACI, which is made up of indigenous organizations from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru. The event brought together senior officials from the health sector of each country involved, social scientists and doctors specializing in the area, international organizations and representatives of the indigenous organizations that comprise CIPIACI.

19. Studies by experts in indigenous issues were presented at the meeting. One of these, entitled "Factors which affect the health of peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact: a case study of the Nanti people of southeast Peru", studies the impact on health from the first involuntary contact between the Nanti people and the non-Nanti world in the southeast of Peru's Amazon region (Cusco department). Technical guidelines were also submitted on health care for indigenous peoples in recent and initial contact at risk of high morbidity and mortality. Their aim is to reduce negative impacts on the health of these indigenous peoples through appropriate and effective human and technical measures which respect their culture and their right to self-determination.

Economic and social development

Paragraph 43

20. The Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation for 2005-2008 includes cooperation with indigenous peoples under its "culture and development" sector. The strategic guidelines and priority actions defined in this document are based on "support for self-development processes and respect for the rights of indigenous peoples". As described in the Master Plan, the policy of cooperation with indigenous peoples is based on their right to exist and on their right to define and to implement their own development models, consistent with the universal respect for human rights. The overall objective of this policy is to promote the recognition and effective exercise of the right of indigenous peoples to coordinate their own social, economic, political and cultural development processes. This precept is clearly demonstrated by the fact that ECEPI, drawn up in 2006, is based on the fundamental principles of self-identification, self-development, free, prior and informed consent, and the recognition of rights.

Environment

Paragraph 50

21. As mentioned with reference to paragraph 13, the Indigenous Programme, through the Almáciga Intercultural Working Group, finances attendance at meetings of the Convention on Biological Biodiversity and the elaboration of reports covering topics on the Convention's agenda. One of the aspects attracting an increased amount of attention is access to and benefit-sharing of genetic resources.

Paragraph 53

22. With regard to the issue of water, AECID provides funding to the development NGO Engineers Without Borders for the implementation of a project in North Mendocino, Argentina, aimed at promoting the right to water of the region's

indigenous peoples. Efforts are being made to overcome the main obstacle, which is lack of basic infrastructure for adequate access to water.

23. The project focuses on three areas. The first area is technical and policy impact through participatory research and the generation of basic knowledge on the water claims of the community territories. The second area consists of the democratization and participation of families and indigenous communities in water resource management. The third area focuses on the establishment of appropriate infrastructures for guaranteeing effective access to water in sufficient quantity and quality. The participation of the *huarpes* is envisaged during all phases of the project: research (Lagunas de Guanacache), management and dissemination of information, water resource management and development of public policy proposals.

Paragraph 56

24. In February 2008, Spain will host the preparatory meeting for the seventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in accordance with the recommendation to hold international events on indigenous issues.

Paragraph 57

25. The Agency provides support for the initiative promoted by the Tebtebba Foundation, which has organized a workshop for international experts on relevant indicators for indigenous peoples within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Permanent Forum of 2005. This workshop will bring together international experts to address the key aspects of the work on indicators from the perspective of indigenous peoples, United Nations agencies, researchers and Governments. The objective is to assess the status of work carried out on indicators on the well-being and sustainable development of indigenous peoples with a view to informing future work on indicators at all levels.

26. The Government of Spain has cooperated with the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (Indigenous Fund) since its inception and contributed 350,000 euros to the Fund in 2007. Within the framework of its flagship programmes, the Fund implements the Communication and Information Programme with the aim of developing indicators to describe and explain the social, economic and cultural situation of indigenous peoples and thus facilitate policymaking, strategy formulation and decision-making in the management of indigenous development.

Health

Paragraph 61

27. As mentioned in reference to paragraph 42, the Government of Spain is cooperating with the Andean Commission on Intercultural Health in order to carry out a project on the right to health of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and in initial contact of the Amazon and Gran Chaco. In addition, AECID has contributed 205,000 euros to the Andean Regional Health Agency (ORAS) in support of the intercultural health project which covers Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile and Colombia. The aim is to strengthen the actions that have been taken within the framework of national health plans in order

to promote the exercise of the rights of indigenous peoples, increase the availability of services that offer an intercultural approach and improve the health of the indigenous population of ORAS member countries.

Paragraph 66

28. AECID cooperates with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the regional programme for the rights of indigenous children and adolescents in Latin America, which includes a subregional project aimed at strengthening civil registration and the coordination of the education and health services of the Gnobe people on the border between Panama and Costa Rica.

Culture

Paragraph 72

29. The regional programme for the rights of indigenous children and adolescents in Latin America implemented by UNICEF also incorporates a pilot project on Bilingual Intercultural Education in Belize and activities aimed at strengthening bilingual education in several countries in Latin America. In addition, AECID carries out bilateral bilingual education projects directly through various Technical Cooperation Offices. For example, throughout 2007, a bilingual education programme was carried out in the Kunas territories in Panama. Similarly, the Office in Peru is developing a bilingual intercultural education programme in the Loreto region which is carried out bilaterally with the Directorate of Bilingual and Intercultural Education and other Peruvian educational institutions.

30. With regard to work with the media, it should be noted that AECID has assisted with strengthening the indigenous communication system in Colombia, and indigenous communication projects have also been started in Bolivia and Ecuador. In Bolivia, the communication processes of indigenous organizations are being strengthened through the dissemination of information and through active participation in the work spaces of the Bolivian National Indigenous Communication Plan. To that end, training workshops and exchange programmes are being organized for indigenous representatives, leaders and communicators from various countries of the region. In Ecuador, AECID jointly organized the Fifth Indigenous Peoples' Audiovisual Festival 2007 with the Cinematography Education and Production Center of Bolivia (CEFREC). As part of this festival, presentations and meetings were organized in various institutions in Spain by a group of film-makers, actors and producers from the Latin American indigenous audiovisual production movement and by members of the Latin American Council on Indigenous Peoples' Film and Video (CLACPI).

Human rights

Paragraph 74

31. The aforementioned Indigenous Fund provides support to the peoples of the Paraguayan Chaco in articulating a strategy whose main aim is to ensure compliance with the judgement issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which directly affects these peoples.

Paragraph 78

32. "The overall objective of ECEPI is to promote the recognition and effective exercise of the right of indigenous peoples to coordinate their own social, economic, political and cultural development processes. The strategy will not only benefit indigenous peoples but society as a whole." This paragraph summarizes the overall objective of the Strategy, which includes the following among its five basic principles: "The Agency will take an approach based on processes and on the recognition of rights, with projects and concrete actions as parts and/or tools of such processes. Only this approach will enable actions that may have a positive impact on the self-development and the recognition and effective exercise of the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples." The practical implementation of this principle is reflected by a project carried out by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs, entitled "First observational phase of rights for indigenous peoples of America". This project has provided indigenous organizations and other organizations offering legal assistance with a minimum organizational capacity to establish a legislative observatory in response to the continuing demands of indigenous peoples throughout Latin America. Its main activities will be legal assistance and training and the dissemination of legal information. The Government of Spain has also financed a project on regional consultation on the rights of indigenous peoples in Africa within the framework of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in order to implement the recommendations of the United Nations Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples in the African context.

33. Furthermore, the Indigenous Fund has consolidated its support for the Training Programme on Human Rights for Latin American Indigenous Representatives organized by the University of Deusto in conjunction with the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Unit of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. Within this framework, the Manual on Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights, which was financed by AECID, was published and presented in October 2007.

Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples

Paragraph 81

34. Spain cooperates with other States that have an indigenous population in the formulation of policies, strategies, programmes and projects adapted to cultural differences in various environments. Reference has already been made to ORAS, which ensures that health policies and institutions are adapted to indigenous cultures. Another example is a project in Colombia run by the Centre for Indigenous Cooperation (CECOIN), which consists of assisting the country's indigenous authorities in the formulation of environmental policies, especially policies that deal with protected areas that come under the scope of the national parks.

35. Spain has also started work on a project aimed at strengthening public policies for the benefit of the Guaraní population in the border region. This project is carried out within the framework of the Trinational Programme (Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil), to which Spain contributed 100,000 euros in 2007. The Programme has three components: the national heritage and development programme, the Araucaria XXI programme on the environment and the Indigenous Programme, of which the aforementioned project is part. Indigenous organizations and public and private

institutions of these countries, including the Public Prosecutor's Office of Paraguay, participate in the programme. The aim of this initiative is to strengthen public policies aimed at the region's Guaraní population. Workshops and meetings are organized to disseminate information on the target population and its needs. As part of the outcomes of these meetings, public policy proposals aimed at meeting this population's needs are formulated and reports are drafted for submission to the relevant institutions.

36. Within the framework of the Spain-Ecuador Technical Cooperation Programme, the project FORMIA Strengthening the Municipalities of the Indigenous Territories of Ecuador, was implemented during 2007. In light of the project's positive outcomes in Ecuador, a decision was taken to share these positive results at the international level. In November 2007, the organizers of FORMIA and the Council for the Development of the Nationalities and Peoples of Ecuador (CODENPE) jointly hosted in Quito the first Latin American meeting of local governments of indigenous territories, known as TANTANAKUSHUN. Representatives of the region's indigenous movement from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Uruguay and Chile took part in the meeting. The objective was to establish a forum where the regions' alternative municipalities and government bodies could share successful experiences in the area of public administration and find ways of responding in future to the needs and demands of the indigenous communities who inhabit these territories.

37. Finally, the Indigenous Fund supports implementation of the programme on strengthening intercultural public policies in Bolivia. This project has contributed to strengthening national indigenous organizations, including their capacity to negotiate and formulate proposals and engage in dialogue with the Government. Also in cooperation with the Fund, the Andean Community Consultative Council of Indigenous Peoples was established as an autonomous forum for decision-making in areas related to the exercise of their rights and could serve as a model for other subregions.

Half-day discussion on urban indigenous peoples and migration

Paragraphs 109 and 110

38. The issue of the mass displacement from home territories to urban centres was discussed at the Quito meeting mentioned in reference to paragraph 81. This issue is a reality that threatens the organization of the Latin American indigenous movement itself because approximately 75 per cent of its members are migrating to the city in order to sell their labour.

Paragraph 118

39. In Bolivia, work has started on a project entitled "Training and leadership for young Guaraníes in the production process in 30 Guaraní communities of the community land of origin of North Charagua". The beneficiaries will be indigenous youth aged 18 to 25 excluded from the formal education system and who work in agriculture in their own community. The project consists of specialized training for these young people in the specific field they are already working in so that after completing the training period, and with the supplies they will be given, they will have skills that will enable them to undertake their own production, ensuring the self-sufficiency of their entire family and generating income.

Activities and current themes (data collection and disaggregation on indigenous peoples)

Paragraph 119

40. The Agency maintains two projects that offer courses on indicators. The first, which was mentioned in reference to paragraph 57, deals with well-being and sustainable development and the second, mentioned in reference to paragraph 61, deals with health indicators.

Paragraph 130

41. The Spanish Government is open to any request for contributions to the Voluntary Fund of the Permanent Forum in order to finance events and meetings related to the special theme of the seventh session.

Paragraph 133

42. This paragraph is entirely consistent with the AECID project aimed at supporting the effective integration of indigenous organizations in the processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which was mentioned in reference to paragraph 13.

Paragraph 146

43. In 2007, the Government of Spain contributed 2,550,000 euros to the General Fund-Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

B. Attention by the Government of Spain to the priority themes of the Forum

44. One of the five basic principles of the Government's Strategy for Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples is the right to free, prior and informed consent. Gender equality is considered to be a cross-cutting priority of all strategic areas. Under the Strategy, the task of data collection and disaggregation has been assigned to the AECID Indigenous Programme. Finally, the Convention of the Rights of the Child (1989), and in particular the article on indigenous boys and girls, is considered to be one of the four international standards that are given priority under the Strategy. Moreover, indigenous boys, girls and youth are the target population of some of the Strategy's components, including bilingual intercultural education and educational equity. Indigenous children and youth are in fact the indirect beneficiaries of all initiatives that are part of Spain's cooperation activities with indigenous peoples.

C. Obstacles to the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

45. The Indigenous Programme and other stakeholders in Spain's cooperation activities working in the field of indigenous issues encounter particular difficulties in carrying out projects that largely depend on the political decision-making of public institutions of other countries, such as formulating legislation and policies,

even though these countries' indigenous organizations are responsible for formulating the proposals. In addition, many of the projects and programmes have a duration of more than a year, so it is difficult to carry out all the initiatives recommended by the Forum in just 12 months, especially because it is essential to the Agency that its activities should be efficient, coherent and of high quality.

D. Enabling factors for the implementation of recommendations

46. Since 2006, the Strategy for Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples has served as an exceptional normative framework in Spain that has provided an ad hoc frame of reference to ensure that involvement with indigenous peoples is consistent with the Agency's principles and with international standards on indigenous issues. Spain's cooperation activities are undertaken by a wide range of executing arms, both internal, such as overseas offices, and external, such as specialized development NGOs and international organizations which the Agency has worked with for a long time. This ensures that actions are wide-ranging and complementary. With respect to AECID internal actors, its activities are diverse and wide-ranging partly because they address indigenous peoples using a variety of approaches and instruments, including bilateral cooperation with each country, various forms of multilateral cooperation and specific programmes, which give priority to indigenous peoples in every case. With its considerable experience in the area of indigenous issues, the AECID also maintains close ties with the most important indigenous organizations, especially in Latin America, which facilitates and expedites cooperation activities.

E. Specific policies and strategies to address indigenous peoples

47. There are no indigenous peoples in Spain, so it is not necessary to enact specific legislation within our country. Nevertheless, the Spanish Strategy for Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, approved in 2006, aims to ensure that countries with indigenous peoples have laws and public policies that recognize and respect their rights.

F. Agency focal point for indigenous peoples

48. The Government of Spain has established a specific unit that is responsible for planning, coordinating, implementing and monitoring all Agency activities which, in full or in part, are aimed at indigenous peoples. This unit is called the Indigenous Programme and belongs to the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, which is part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

G. Training on indigenous issues for officials of the Agency

49. Each year, the Indigenous Programme organizes participatory training seminars for the technical staff of Spain's official cooperation activities at all levels, including at the level of the autonomous communities (autonomous community agencies), at the national level (AECID) and overseas (technical cooperation offices

in developing countries). The aim of this training is to discuss the Strategy for Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples and its successful application to projects.

50. The programme normally used at these seminars consists of two phases. During the first phase, a presentation is given on ECEPI which serves as a refresher for participants. Next, working groups are formed to discuss the application of the principles, objectives and priorities of the strategy, taking as a case study a real project co-financed by AECID.

51. In 2008, two new seminars on indigenous issues will be held and attended by the technical staff of Spain's cooperation activities whose work has some bearing on indigenous peoples.

H. Activities for the objectives of the United Nations Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples

52. Although AECID does not have a plan of action specifically aimed at implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, the strategies and priorities contained in the ECEPI are in line with the aims set out in the United Nations Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples.